



## Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes

Date: Monday, June 22, 2020

Time: 8:00 PM- 10:00 PM

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

**\*Notice to the Public on meeting privacy\*** In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial-in information provided.

Please read Governor Baker's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provision of Open Meeting Law for more information regarding virtual public hearings and meetings:

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/open-meeting-law-order-march-12-2020/download>

Attendees: Co-chairs Grossman and Bauer, Commissioners Minton, Rogers, Haynes, Pusey, Soneja, Brown, Carney, DiMeo, Horowitz, Baron

Guests: Jillian Harvey- DEI Coordinator

Intern: Noah Sweder

Community Members: Marlissa Brigggett, Lauren Bellon, Rebecca Steinitz, Brian King, Elizabeth Dray and Lynette Martyn

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 8:00pm by Co-chair Grossman

1. Co-chair Report
  - a. Co-chair Grossman reads the script for remote meetings
  - b. Co-chairs responded to questions and comments received on the AHRC website about recent events
  - c. Looking for interns/ volunteers from Arlington schools (contact Commissioner Horowitz)

2. Review of Minutes
  - a. A motion to accept May minutes as amended was made by Commissioner Baron, seconded by Comm. Brown, and approved unanimously.
3. Review of Community Input
  - a. None last meeting. DEI coordinator Harvey will provide future updates.
4. Review of Police Presence Guidelines
  - a. Per request, and approval by the co-chairs, the co-chairs will notify the APD so that an officer will not be assigned to attend the monthly AHRC meeting.
  - b. A motion to accept the edited police guidelines as presented was made by Comm. Minton, seconded by Comm. Baron and unanimously approved.
5. Review of Working Groups
  - a. Outreach
    - i. Finalized guidelines for the process for issuing statements
    - ii. Are building contact lists
    - iii. Creating a set of questions measuring Arlington's success in promoting human rights
    - iv. There is a trilateral effort (alongside the Disability Comm. and Rainbow Comm.) promoting human rights in Arlington's business community
  - b. Communications
    - i. Recently created an AHRC YouTube channel.
  - c. Schools and Education
    - i. Looking at discipline disparities in the APS and diversity within staff
      1. How to move forward
        - a. Subcommittee with the AHRC and School Committee
        - b. Apply for state grant to increase diversity of teachers
  - d. Events
    - i. Hosted events over the past month
      1. Black Lives Matter Vigil
      2. Juneteenth jubilee
    - ii. Printed "We're All In This Together" posters (designed by local graphic artist Joseph Joey James.
  - e. By-Laws
    - i. None
6. Other Reports
  - a. Budget
  - b. Forums are starting (broadcasted by ACMI) on 6/23
    - i. A motion to cosponsor the forums was made by Comm. Bauer, seconded by Comm. Haynes and unanimously approved.
    - ii. Request to sponsor Black Lives Matter banner
  - c. Order Hate Has No Home Here and Love Lies Here signs
    - i. A motion to expend up to \$500 to sponsor BLM banner and up to \$500 for signs was made by Comm. Carney, seconded by Comm. Rogers and unanimously approved
7. Community Input

- a. Lauren Bellon: Read the letter she sent to the Assistant Superintendent advocating that the Arlington Public schools require that written incident reports be available to families when they involve a school resource officer or other APD officer in de-escalating or disciplining a student during the school day.
  - b. Marliisa Brigget: The response from APS administrators to past data analyst Jean Mike Remy's letter has been simply to say it was inaccurate and attempt to silence it. The APS administrators should release a statement saying they want to have discussions about racial inequities rather than silence them.
  - c. Brian King: Follow through with the demands of the Black Student Union. Give those affected, Jean Mike Remy and others, a role in the conversation and action moving forward. Create a policy around racist and/or homophobic speech.
  - d. Rebecca Stenitz: Raised concern over Jean Mike Remy's letter and the response. Drug suspensions are not mandated by state law, yet they are in the APS.
8. Masks
- a. A motion to table this agenda item was made by Comm. Baron, seconded by Comm. Brown and approved with one dissent from Comm. DiMeo.
9. Incidents
- a. Children of local police officers are being harassed on TikTok
10. A motion to adjourn at 10:00pm was made by Comm. Grossman, seconded by Comm. Brown and approved with one dissent from Comm. DiMeo

**Next meeting:** July 15, 2020, 8:00 pm, Remote Participation.